

RESEARCH & GRANTS

In 1998, the NJCCR was pleased to award 4 two-year grants and 5 one-year grants to investigators in non-profit research institutions throughout New Jersey. The purpose of the grants is to provide seed money for promising young or established investigators embarking on new areas of research. Based on the work accomplished by Commission funds, investigators are able to procure larger grants from federal or private sources.

The Commission has established a scientific review panel which consists of prominent scientists from outside the state who evaluate all proposals for scientific merit. The panel follows National Institutes of Health study group procedures so that reviews are handled in a fair and equitable way. Commission members then review the recommendations of the panel and award grants based upon scientific merit. In this way, the citizens of New Jersey are assured that their investment in cancer research is being used wisely. The validity of this approach was confirmed by the National Cancer Advisory Board which called the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research a model for other states.

Investing in New Jersey's most talented researchers, the Commission believes, is the only sure strategy of success against such a complex disease. For example, grants this year covered a broad range of subjects. Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy, of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, will test in vivo effects of the PTI-1 gene to assess factors in the promotion of prostatic tumors. Conversely, Dr. Rita Alisauskas, from the Garden State Cancer Center, is searching for clues in the chronobiology effects of experimental IL-12 immunotherapy.

NEW JERSEY CANCER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The New Jersey Cancer Research Fellowship Program was initiated by the NJCCR in 1988 for the purpose of attracting young, talented investigators to the field of cancer research, including those who have chosen to remain in New Jersey as their site for employment. The program has proven to be a sound and promising investment that has generated a significant number of trained cancer scientists who have published papers in peer-reviewed journals and given presentations at conferences within and outside the state.

New Jersey has taken the initiative by investing in future scientists so that a critically needed pool of highly skilled workers will be available for the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. In 1998, after careful review by its scientific panel, the Commission awarded 3 predoctoral and 6 postdoctoral fellowships to students of outstanding merit. Unfortunately, limited funds have reduced the number of fellows that the Commission can support, nonetheless, efforts are being made to increase the necessary financial resources. In summary, the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research has awarded \$4,018,117 for 163 training fellowships.

NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON CANCER RESEARCH 1998 AWARDS

Pre-Doctoral Fellowships

(2 years)

Irena Ivanovska, Princeton University

Genetic Characterization of MTOC Duplication in Yeast

Lisa L. Maduzia, Rutgers University

*Analysis of TGF β signaling in *C. elegans**

Stacy Stein, UMDNJ- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

*Isolation of Genes Regulated by *Nkx3.1**

Post-Doctoral Fellowships

Kyoung-Eun Kim, PhD, UMDNJ- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

*Functional Analysis of the *bci-3* Protooncogene*

2 years

Lisa Parker, PhD, UMDNJ- New Jersey Medical School

Regulation of an NFAT Site Binding Protein by RNA

2 years

Cherylene A. Schaubert, PhD, UMDNJ- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Regulation of DNA Repair by the Ubiquitin System

1 year

Weng-Lang Yang, PhD, The Cancer Institute of New Jersey

*The Role of *RI α* Subunit of PKA in Cell Growth Regulation*

1 year

One Year Grants

Julie Drawbridge, PhD, Rider University

The C-ret Signaling System in Kidney Morphogenesis

\$43,365

Terri Goss Kinzy, PhD, UMDNJ- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

In Vivo Effects of the PTI-1 Prostatic Tumor Promoting Factor

\$42,900

Two Year Grants

Rita Alisauskas, PhD, Garden State Cancer Center
Chronobiology of Experimental IL-12 Immunotherapy
\$86,900

Jeffrey R. Cook, PhD, UMDNJ- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
New Interferon Receptors in Normal and Transformed Cells
\$85,690

Samuel I. Gunderson, PhD, Rutgers University
Production of Secreted EGFR by Poly (A) Site Activation
\$86,900

Ruth Steward, PhD, Rutgers University
Characterization of a New I κ B Interacting Protein in Mouse
\$87,890

New Jersey Breast Cancer Research Fund - Outstanding Breast Cancer Award (1 year - \$50,000)

David M. Goldenberg, ScD, MD
Garden State Cancer Center
Immunodiagnosis of Breast Cancer

Thresia Thomas, PhD
UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Estradiol Metabolites and Breast Cancer

Robert Wieder, MD
UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School
Differentiation of Breast Cancer by Retinoids and Vitamin D3

Summer Fellowships (\$2,800 Each)

Anthony J. Apicelli, Princeton University
Andrea E. Bowen, Coriell Institute for Medical Research
Sophie Dumont, Princeton University
Samesh S. Girgis, Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine
Carrie L. Heusner, Princeton University
Shauna K. Hodge, UMD-Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Adam S. Lazorchak, Rutgers University
James P. Lee, Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine
Michael Shin, The Cancer Institute of New Jersey
Jason P. Smith, Rider University